

Our Dangers From Within.
During a large part of our existence as a nation many of our people were disposed to doubt the possibility of an internal danger in the form of riots or insurrections, forgetting that such troubles arose from the very beginning of our history.

The Shays rebellion and the whisky insurrection were episodes of our early youth; the "Native American," the anti-slavery, and the draft riots, the war itself, and the regrettable and wide-spread disturbances of 1877 suffice to show that at no time have we been entirely free from elements of disorder requiring the active intervention of armed force.

It is idle to close our eyes to the fact that there now exists in certain localities an element, mostly imported from abroad, fraught with danger to order and well-being unless firmly and wisely controlled.

This is not the place to discuss the question of socialism, atheism, or anarchy; let it suffice to say that even the most extreme of extremists are rarely altogether wrong, or without some shadow of right, or what they believe to be right. They are often right as to many of their facts, but wrong as to their conclusions, and entirely mistaken as to the practical methods of gaining their ends. It is but just and fair to listen honestly to what they have to say, and if any wrong thing be found, then to right it as far as practicable.

There is no possible objection to free and fair discussion; on the contrary, it is sure to do good.

There is no sound objection to labor unions, for labor has as much right as capital to unite for its own protection and to improve its own condition, and all candid men must acknowledge that the condition of the masses of laboring-men among the Christian nations is not what a sincere Christian would like to have it.

Frankly and fully acknowledging that the much needed amelioration of the condition of the laboring classes is an inevitable and the most important problem of the immediate future, it must at the same time be insisted upon—as much in their own interest as in that of the theocracy of which they form so important a part—that in the prosecution of their ends the labor organizations should restrict themselves to fair, open, honorable, and legal methods; that they must never resort to violence toward either the persons or property of their employers, or toward those of their comrades who may hold different views; and that they must, still in their own interest, always recognize the fact that truth, though man's liberty of action is bounded by the equal rights of his fellow-men. To pass beyond this limit is license, not liberty; crime, not a virtue or privilege. The individual who perpetrates this crime becomes at once a fit subject for the repressive action of the law. When a mass of men too numerous to be dealt with by the ordinary machinery of the law place themselves in the same category, the safety of the state and the security of their fellow citizens require that they should be dealt with as a body.

The good community, the safety of innocent members of society, require that the moment the necessity for this action arises, it should be prompt and efficient. But in all such cases prevention is better than cure, and all concerned should learn that when peaceable discussion is exhausted, there stands ready for instant use a well disciplined force prepared to act upon the instant to support the majesty of the law.

I do not think that in this country danger is to be apprehended from the organization of legitimate labor, because our working men are as a rule intelligent and industrious, good citizens and good fathers of families. Knowing and prepared to maintain their own rights, they respect the legitimate rights of others, and realize the fact that the well-being and happiness of their families depend upon the preservation of order and security; not that kind of order which prevents the many from ascending in the scale of happiness and prosperity as the reward of honest industry, nor that kind of security which enables a privileged few to keep the many in a state of submission and abject poverty, but order and security as we understand them in this free land of ours—an order and security which afford free scope to the legitimate aspirations of all, which give equal political right and equal personal freedom to all within our limits; under which those favored in this world's goods may retain them if provident, but with the certainty that they or their descendants will find their deserved lower level if wasteful squanderers while the poorest toil, if honest, capable, and industrious, sees open for himself and his children the pathway to honor and well being.

Our nation is a nation of working-men whether their labor be intellectual or the no less useful and honorable labor with the hand.

Our danger, if danger there be, will come not from the true working men, but from those who do not intend to do so, but prefer to gain an easy living by misleading and deceiving the true working-men, and emulate the wreckers of the ship of society upon the rocks of anarchy and atheism that they may prey upon the remnants of the rich cargo washed to the shore.

The theories of the anarchists, internationalists, and nihilists are only recently foreign way among us; they are strictly foreign productions, which protective tariff has not sufficed to exclude, and is not probable that they can make any considerable or lasting headway among our own people.

The people of America realize that the institutions under which we live are of our own making; that the majority rule and make the law; that, under the God whom we worship, our happiness depends upon the security of these institutions; that the ultimate purpose of our government is the happiness and inviolability of our families; and that our dearest aim in life is to secure the well-being of our children.

It is to the highest extent improbable, nay, it is impossible, that free and enlightened Americans can abandon all their cherished far more than life itself in order to court misery and ruin at the call of a few misguided or wicked men, who have brought hither theories which have wrought destruction and no particle of good wherever they have attempted to carry them into practice in the Old World. When the moment for action arrives, there is no question as to the manner in which the masses of Americans will deal with these men and their wild theories.

The ultimate result is not for a moment doubtful. But as these men openly avow their intention of organizing and acting for the purpose of carrying their views into practical effect, it is wise to prepare the means of crushing their efforts at the outset, that no harm may come to the innocent, and that the ruin invoked may fall solely upon the heads of the guilty conspirators.

A few hours' control in our large cities by these madmen would cause almost irreparable damage; the opportunity should not be afforded them; and they will never strike the blow if convinced that proper preparations exist to meet them.

As I write these pages two of our largest and most prosperous western cities are the scenes of dangerous disorders, arising

from the efforts of strikers to gain their ends by violence. Here let it be repeated that our legislators should calmly examine the demands of extremists, and when they find that they are not reasonable, and much more those of the moderate men who honestly desire to attain what they regard as legitimate changes.

If any proper and practical thing is asked, it should be granted promptly and graciously; but if an attempt is made to gain their ends by violence, it is absolutely necessary to meet force promptly with ever winning force, and crush the outbreak at once and effectually.

The Indian Problem.
Geo. B. McClellan in Harper's Magazine.

With respect to the ever-burning Indian question—so often "finally settled," only to break out again almost with the regularity of machinery—it might suffice to bid my readers consult the daily papers, which, as I write, are filled with the sickening details of the horrors committed by the Indians and their Apaches, and of the terror and apprehension felt upon the borders in consequence of the threatening and uneasy attitude of the Cheyennes, the Arapahoes, and other tribes.

Until the entire control of Indian affairs is vested in the army, with sufficient means to enforce its decisions; until the younger Indians are imbued with new habits, desires, and ambitions, and the elders disarmed, and, where necessary, overawed by the display of overwhelming force; until the tribal organizations are broken up, and the Indians brought under the operation of the same laws as the white man, alike for his punishment and protection, until the frontiersman can regard the Indian as a fellow citizen or at least as a human being, instead of a murderous savage more taken to a wild beast than to a man—it is idle to expect a cessation of these outbreaks so constantly recurring throughout the vast territory dotted by their reservations.

Whether the cow-boy, the trader, the miner, or the Indian be at fault, so long as the present conditions endure there must be a repetition of outbreaks or of the apprehension of them.

Those who are protected from all possible danger by an insuperable barrier cannot realize the horrors resulting from the raid of a few Indians, the immense difficulty of apprehending them, and the moral sufferings and material losses resulting from the mere apprehension of an Indian outbreak even on a small scale.

Among the widely scattered and defenseless settlements a party of less than a score of Indians can with impunity create immense devastation, and the mere possibility of such a thing vastly impedes the material development of the country.

So long as the possibility exists it is the duty of the general government to provide fully against it at any cost. The great difficulty under which our army has always labored is that it has been required to perform onerous and most dangerous work with an entirely insufficient force. It has always done its best to compensate for its paucity of numbers by audacity and energy; but there is a limit to the possible, which our army has too often been called upon to exceed.

It is safe to say that our losses in Indian wars have been far more than quadrupled by the necessity of attempting the impossible, and too much praise can never be given to the brave men who have unflinchingly made the endeavor, with no other incentive than their innate heroism and a pride in their profession.

As a part of the fact that it is cruel and unjust to put brave men to such a test unnecessarily, even the paltry consideration of economy demands a different system, for it is unquestionable that the comparatively slight increase of expenditure caused by increasing the force of the present establishment by the addition of 10,000 privates to the existing segments of cavalry and infantry would be far more than met by the diminished cost of transportation and the increased prosperity of the country resulting from the secure and rapid development of the resources of the immense region affected by the Indian question. When, with such an increased force, the excellent policy of concentrating the army at small number of large posts—so justly approved by the Lieutenant-General commanding—can be fully carried out, discipline and efficiency will be very much improved, and all outbreaks will be nipped in the bud, or, to speak more accurately, the Indians will recognize the folly of attempting them.

I do not think it possible to insist too strongly upon the necessity of placing the management of Indian affairs under the War Department, and in the immediate hands of army officers, who should act as Indian agents.

With such suspicious creatures as the Indians it is absolutely necessary that there should be unity of management and control, and no shadow of doubt in their minds as to the prompt and entire fulfillment alike on promises and threats.

The establishment of schools for Indian children is a very important step in the right direction, and their effect is excellent, so far as they go; but from the imperfect knowledge in my possession it seems to me that they should be established on a larger scale, and that thus far a mistake has been made in attempting to spread their advantages over too many tribes at the same time. If a small number of educated young Indians—half a dozen or so—are sent back to their tribe, they are too few to stand alone and keep each other in countenance, and are apt to be lost in the mass of the tribe without producing much, if any, influence upon them; while, if, instead of taking half a dozen from each of several tribes, as many as a hundred are taken from one tribe, they would upon their return strengthen each other, and accomplish good results with the others.

A Child's Gift.
"The most trifling gift is often the one to be valued most, and I have known that a king's ransom could not purchase," writes a gentleman who was once a teacher in a country school district. "I had among my pupils some years ago a singularly beautiful and winsome little girl named Mary. Her parents were dead, and she had no misfortune live with a distant relative who made the child most unhappy by his cruel treatment. His wife was even more cruel to the helpless child, who was the most obedient and submissive of children.

"They allowed her to come to school three months in the coldest winter weather. She was always thinly clad, and I fear that her little thin lunch-pail seldom contained anything better than dry bread and cold potatoes.

"I tried to be very kind to her, I hope that I was.

"But she had a large school of bad boys and mischievous girls who tried my patience, and who took up all my time, even at noon and recess hours.

"Mary was shy and sensitive, making few friends, and saying nothing when certain thoughtless and heartless girls ridiculed her shabby clothes.

"She had a very interesting thin face, her fingers together, and glancing at me in a frightened, timid manner.

"She was thus taunted.

"I always went to the rescue as soon as I could, and am not at all sorry now that I boxed certain ears very smartly.

"The week before Christmas she fell

ill. I went to see her every evening after school, and her gratitude for these visits shone forth in her eyes. I feared from the first that she would never be well again, and I think she felt so herself, and was not sorry.

"I took her a few little gifts on Christmas morning, and after I had given them to her, she slipped one thing into my hand up under the pillow, and said—

"I've got a little something for you. It ain't anything hardy. I'm most ashamed to offer it; but it will do you to remember me by, and it's all I have to give.

"Her little all consisted of a small carnation ring that could not have cost more than five cents.

"I'd like to have you keep it," she said in a whisper.

"And I have kept it among the things I treasure most."

"In another hour she was raving in delirium.

"I wish, I do wish they'd stop it!" she cried. "I wish they'd not put me in old clothes so! I hate so to put them on! I wish, I do wish, I could have—ones—some time!"

"Before the day was done, she had put on new clothes that never will wear out nor lose their heavenly beauty; garments not fashioned by earthly hands."

CHRISTMAS CAROLS.
The carols which were sung all through the Christmas season were of two kinds: Scriptural and convivial; the first was sung morning and evening until the twelfth day, and the other at the feasts and carousals. The pious carols contained some Scriptural history thrown into loose rhymes; and in Shakespeare's day were sung every night about the streets; and were the pretext for collecting money from house to house. One of the best of the carols, and one of the most ancient, is of Scottish origin:

ANESANG OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST.
WITH THE TUNE OF "RAU LULA LAU."
(Angels, all ye angels, sing.)
"I come from heav'n to tell
The best news that e'er befell:
To you the tidings I will bring,
And I will of them say and sing—

"This day to you is borne an child
Of Marie most pure and mild;
This blessed babe, bairn and kynde,
Shall ere ye see him laugh and mynd.

"My soul and life stand up and see
Quas he is that, so good and free
Is Christ, God's sonne and alre.

"O God, that made all creature,
How art thou blest and pure!
That on the heve and strag will're,
Among the asss, oxen, and key!

"O my deir heart, young Jesusse!
Prep're thy cressel in my sp're,
And I will make thee my dear hert,
And never part from thee hereaft.

But I will praise Thee evermore,
With songs a sweit unto thy gair,
The krus of my hert shall I love,
And sing that right ballad—

During the sixteenth century carols of this sort were sung through every town and village in the kingdom. It was a very early practice for itinerant minstrels to go about to the houses of the wealthy in this season and sing drinking or vaudeville songs. The earliest preserved is in Norm in French, and insinuates the love that Christmas has for the "jolly crew" that "drain the flowing bowl." Indeed it would appear from the chronicles that Christmas, ivy-crowned, with song and games and license generally, went reeling around from dinner to dinner for two or three days of merriment. But they were days of some profit to the poor and to the church. The object of the common people in chanting the nightly carols was to collect money, or "Christmas-boxes." This term was derived from the usage of the priests, who ordered masses at times to be made to the saints for the sins of the people. The mass was called Christ mass, and the boxes in which the money was collected to pay for it was called Christmas boxes. The people were permitted to gather this money in order to be able to free themselves from the consequences of the debaucheries in which they indulged. The rich at this season enabled them to indulge. Thus the same charity that led a man into the sin of over-indulgence provided him the means of wiping out the score against his soul. In time "Christmas box" came to mean any gift to a deity, saint or poor man, and was distinguished until a recent period from the gifts exchanged between equals. In consequence of the multiplicity of business on Christmas day, the giving of the Christmas boxes was postponed to the 26th, St. Stephen's day, which became the established boxing day. It was a privileged day for all sorts of beggars, when the bell men, the beadles, the street sweepers, the chimney sweeps, the charity boys, the lamp lighters, and the write-singers of more or less doleful carols—went about to all doors and rapped for a Christmas box. Old Peppy (1698) that he was a poor man and was distinguished until a recent period from the gifts exchanged between equals. In consequence of the multiplicity of business on Christmas day, the giving of the Christmas boxes was postponed to the 26th, St. Stephen's day, which became the established boxing day. It was a privileged day for all sorts of beggars, when the bell men, the beadles, the street sweepers, the chimney sweeps, the charity boys, the lamp lighters, and the write-singers of more or less doleful carols—went about to all doors and rapped for a Christmas box. Old Peppy (1698) that he was a poor man and was distinguished until a recent period from the gifts exchanged between equals. 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